

ÆTHER-ADVERTISING.

It is with regret that we feel called upon to notice the subjoined letter on the subject of æther-inhalation. On referring to the "Provincial Directory," we observe the name of "Matthew Carter, Castle Cary, Somerset, Physician, M.D., Memb. Roy. Coll. Phys., Lond., 1846," &c., &c. It cannot be supposed that the writer of the letter, and the Member of the Royal College of Physicians, whose name appears in the "Directory," are one and the same individual, and the genuine Dr. Carter owes it alike to the College, to his professional brethren, and to himself, immediately to disavow the use which has been so reprehensibly made of his name:—

THE VALUE OF THE VAPOUR OF ÆTHER IN THE TREATMENT OF DISEASE.

To the Editor of the Sherborne Journal.

SIR,—I feel it my duty energetically to draw the attention of the public, but more particularly of my medical brethren in this county, to an important, though simple fact,—namely, to the value of the inhalation of æther in the treatment of some of those various chronic, and indeed acute forms of disease, which have hitherto unhappily baffled the best-devised means of our art.

The result of my experience of its efficacy in the treatment of disease, has astonished and delighted me. Taught hitherto to believe, and observation and experience having confirmed my teaching, that there existed not in the details of medicine any agent which should deserve the name of "specific," I cannot express the amount of my gratification in having thus to say, that the vapour of æther, judiciously applied, in my opinion, approaches nearer unto what may be understood by the term "specific," than any other therapeutic agent with which we are acquainted.

The most violent paroxysms of gout, of rheumatism, of neuralgic affections, tic-douloureux, &c., &c., have yielded, as it were magically, to the influence of this agent, and in no one instance in which I have applied it have I had any reason to doubt of its efficacy; on the contrary, the transition from acute pain to the most perfect ease, has, in each instance, attested its most salutary property; and it is right to mention, that in no one case have I found it necessary to carry the inhalation of the vapour so far as to induce any thing approaching to insensibility; the slightest influence of the æther produces *immediate results*, and pain begins to cease almost instantaneously.

I trust I have said enough to draw the attention of my medical brethren to the *value of the fact*. I shall be happy if, by this means of publicity, I induce them to test, and attest for themselves, the truth of what I now assert, confident as I am that an agent is discovered of stupendous power, which in the hands of our profession, rightly wielded, will, I doubt not, prove one of the most valuable, as it is, I think, most decidedly one of the most certainly efficacious means of treatment to which the medical profession has access.

Your obedient servant,

MATTHEW CARTER, M.D.

Castle Cary, February 15, 1847.

P.S.—I hope shortly to lay before the medical profession a short pamphlet on this subject.

Medical Intelligence.

FATAL EFFECTS OF ÆTHER: INQUEST.

An inquest has been held on a young woman, the wife of a hair-dresser, at Spittlegate, in the county of Lincolnshire, from whom a tumour had been removed while under the influence of æther. She never rallied, and died without the slightest re-action having taken place, sixteen hours after the operation. The following verdict was returned:—"That the deceased, Ann Parkinson, died from the effects of the vapour of æther, inhaled by her for the purpose of alleviating pain during the removal of a tumour from her left thigh, and not from the effect of the operation, or from any other cause." The surgeon who performed the operation stated that he fully concurred in the verdict, as he had no doubt whatever that the æther alone was the cause of death, and it was a duty he owed to the public to say so.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION BILL.

Some time since a meeting of this Association was convened for the especial purpose of considering what course should be pursued in reference to Mr. Wakley's new Registration Bill, when the following resolution was adopted:—"That the Medical Registration Bill proposed by Mr. Wakley is cordially approved by this Association, and that it be energetically and promptly supported."

The Bill, it is understood, is now in the hands of Counsel; but when the proper time arrives, active measures will be adopted to carry the resolution into effect.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Dr. William Wegg has been appointed Physician to the Westminster General Dispensary, in the room of Dr. S. W. J. Merriman, resigned. Dr. Merriman has been appointed Consulting Physician to the Institution.

Dennis Phelan, Esq., Surgeon, of Dublin, has been re-appointed an Assistant Poor-Law Commissioner for Ireland.

M. Gibert has been elected a Member of the Académie de Médecine, Paris, in the Section of Therapeutics.

M. Civiale has been elected a Member of the Académie des Sciences, Paris, in the room of M. Bory de St. Vincent, deceased.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members on Friday, March 12th:—G. Allbutt; C. M. Empson; H. Barnett; H. Green; W. Faithfull; J. M. Birom; J. Rice; C. S. Hugo.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted Licentiates, Thursday, March 4th:—Peter Brady; Thomas Orton, Rothwell; William Cumming; Edmund John Burman, Banstead; James Graham, Liverpool.

OBITUARY.

Died February 20th, at Cahir, of fever, Michael Daniel, Esq., Surgeon to the Fever Hospital and Dispensary.

February 28th, of fever, David Smith, M.D., Medical Attendant of the Middleton Fever Hospital and Dispensary.

Lately, at the Grange, Melton, aged 70, Thomas Bland, M.D., a Magistrate of the County of Suffolk.

Lately, aged 43, Edward Lubbock, M.D., Physician to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Prevention and Treatment of Disease in the Potato and other Crops. By John Parkin, M.D., &c. &c. London: Wood. 1847. 8vo., pp. 84.

A Treatise on Diet and Regimen. By William Henry Robertson, M.D., Physician to the Buxton Bath Charity. Fourth edition. Part I. London: Churchill. 1847. pp. 116.

On Wounds and Injuries of the Abdomen and the Pelvis, &c. By G. J. Guthrie, F.R.S. London: Churchill. 1847. Royal 8vo., pp. 73.

On the Sanatory Condition of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the Means necessary for its Improvement, &c. By George Robinson, M.D., Joint Lecturer on Materia Medica and Forensic Medicine in the Newcastle-on-Tyne Medical School, &c. Newcastle-on-Tyne: Richardson. 1847. 8vo., pp. 58.

Analysis of Evidence laid before the Health of Towns' Commission on Metropolitan Sewerage Manure, &c., &c. London: 1847. 8vo., pp. 32.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNALS FOR JANUARY, 1847.

Kept at Sidmouth, by W. H. CULLEN, M.D.; at Romsey, Hants, by FRANCIS BUCKELL, Esq.; at Uckfield, Sussex, by C. L. PRINCE, Esq.

	SIDMOUTH.		ROMSEY.		UCKFIELD.
Mean of External Thermometer at 9 A.M.	40.40	.....	37.10	.....	.
..... 9 P.M.	39.67	.....	37.50	.....	.
..... the Maxima,	44.39	.....	38.70	.....	.
..... Minima,	38.93	.....	33.50	.....	.
Absolute Mean	41.66	.....	36.10	.....	36.43
..... of ten preceding years.	40.34	.....	.	.....	.
Extreme highest on the 25th	50.	on the 26th	51.50	on the 26th	51.
..... lowest 1st & 3rd	31.50	on the 1st	26.00	on the 3rd	24.
..... range	18.50	.....	25.50	.....	27.
Mean daily range	7.00	.....	9.08	.....	8.54
Greatest daily range .....	.	on the 25th & 24th	19.00	.....	.
Least .....	.	on the 8th & 28th	.50	.....	.
Maximum in the Sun .....	.	.....	.	on the 14th	62.5
Minimum on the Grass .....	.	.....	.	on the 3rd	22.
Mean of Barometer at 9 A.M.	29.969	.....	29.366	.....	29.83
..... 9 P.M.	29.938	.....	29.339	.....	.
Extreme highest on the 1st	30.440	on the 1st	29.840	on the 9th	30.27
..... lowest on the 28th	29.300	on the 28th	28.580	on the 28th	29.15
..... range	1.140	.....	1.260	.....	1.12
Mean dewpoint at 9 A.M.	37.80	.....	.	.....	32.79
..... 9 P.M.	36.20	.....	.	.....	.
Number of days fine	6	.....	8	.....	.
..... snow	3	.....	.	.....	.
..... dull and variable	11	.....	.	.....	.
..... on which any rain fell ..	11	and snow	19	.....	.
Quantity of rain in inches	2.98	.....	.	.....	1.81
Evaporation .....	.	.....	.	.....	.63
Thunder and lightening on the 24th.					
Prevailing Winds,	S.E. N.E.	.....	N.E. S.E.	.....	East.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from Mr. P. Wright; Mr. E. Daniell; W. J. W.; Dr. Durrant; Dr. Butler Lane; Dr. Black; Mr. T. E. Amyot; the Sheffield Medical Society; Mr. H. L. Smith; Mr. W. H. Broughton.

The continuation of Dr. Addison's paper will be given in the next number, which, as well as Mr. Wright's communication, has been unavoidably delayed on account of the wood-cuts.